

**EXPRESS MAIL RECEIPT NO. ER782415981US  
DEPOSITED ON APRIL 1, 2004**

**PATENT  
DKT. STL11379**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent application of: **Robert A. Alt, E. Paul Lee and Matthew R. Lepore**

for **SEPARATOR PLATE WITH HEAD LOAD/UNLOAD**, the specification of which is being transmitted herewith.

**Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement**

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. Preliminary Statements
2. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)
3. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

**Section 1.      Preliminary statements**

Applicants submit herewith a listing of patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

## Section 2. Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Approved for use through 04/30/2003; OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>2</u>	<b>Complete if Known</b> Application No.: <u>Not Yet Assigned</u> Filing Date: <u>April 1, 2004</u> First Named Inventor: <u>Robert A. Alt, et al.</u> Group Art Unit: <u>Unknown</u> Examiner Name: <u>Unknown</u> Attorney Docket Number: <u>STL11379</u>
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### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	AA	4,452,092		Dankwort	06-05-1984	
	AB	4,571,216		Stieg, et al.	02-18-1986	
	AC	4,843,288		Volz, et al.	06-27-1989	
	AD	4,949,201		Abed	08-14-1990	
	AE	4,977,529		Gregg, et al.	12-11-1990	
	AF	5,189,574		Imamura, et al.	02-23-1993	
	AG	5,379,171		Morehouse, et al.	01-03-1995	
	AH	5,579,189		Morehouse, et al.	11-26-1996	
	AI	5,592,349		Morehouse, et al.	01-07-1997	
	AJ	5,631,787		Huang, et al.	05-20-1997	
	AK	5,694,267		Morehouse, et al.	12-02-1997	
	AL	5,760,986		Morehouse, et al.	06-02-1998	
	AM	5,764,437		Meyer, et al.	06-09-1998	
	AN	5,835,303		Morehouse, et al.	11-10-1998	
	AO	5,867,340		Morehouse, et al.	02-02-1999	
	AP	5,898,545		Schirle, et al.	04-27-1999	
	AQ	5,907,453		Wood, et al.	05-25-1999	
	AR	5,909,661		Abramovitch, et al.	06-01-1999	
	AS	5,940,240		Kupferman	08-17-1999	
	AT	5,973,887		Cameron	10-26-1999	
	AU	6,084,753		Gillis, et al.	07-04-2000	
	AV	6,097,568		Ekhoff	08-01-2000	
	AW	6,134,071		Andoh, et al.	10-17-2000	

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 2**Complete if Known**

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned  
 Filing Date: April 1, 2004  
 First Named Inventor: Robert A. Alt, et al.  
 Group Art Unit: Unknown  
 Examiner Name: Unknown

Attorney Docket Number: STL11379**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document Number <i>(if known)</i>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	<b>AX</b>	6,157,520	Mangold, et al.	12-05-2000	
	<b>AY</b>	6,181,528	Reinhart, et al.	01-30-2001	
	<b>AZ</b>	6,292,333	Blumentritt, et al.	09-18-2001	
	<b>BA</b>	6,542,328	Harrison, et al.	04-01-2003	
	<b>BB</b>	6,549,365	Severson	04-15-2003	
	<b>BC</b>	6,600,625	Munninghoff, et al.	07-29-2003	

**OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Office <sup>3</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> <i>(if known)</i>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature	Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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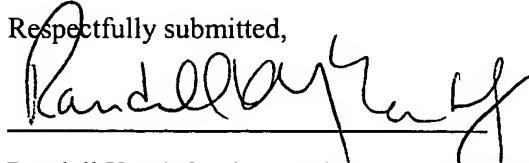
**Section 3. Identification of Person Making This Information Disclosure Statement**

The person making this certification is:

- a. the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor(s) and in the practitioner's file.

Date: 4/1/04

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